

SENATOR **Nell Soto** 32nd Senatorial District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 17, 2002

Contact: Marty Uribes, Press Secretary
(916) 445-6868

GOVERNOR SIGNS SENATOR SOTO'S TEACHER HOME VISIT BILL

Parental Involvement Key Element in New Law

Sacramento – The highly acclaimed Home Visitation Program was signed into law by Governor Gray Davis today. SB 33, authored by Senator Nell Soto (D-Pomona), continues the original program first implemented in 2000.

“I am pleased the Governor sees this bill is an important part of improving the education process,” says Senator Soto. “This program has proven to be successful in the past. It can only help more parents get involved with their child’s education. The key to a successful education is parental involvement.”

In the Home Visitation Program, teachers make visits to student’s homes. The goal is to get parents involved in their child’s education. The program allows a teacher to see first hand the student’s home environment, which has proven to help in educating the child. It also breaks down barriers that may make some parents feel intimidated with the school system.

SB 33 allocates \$15 million for the first year it is implemented, with the amount determined during the budget process each year for the next five years. The Department of Education will disperse the funds.

Senator Soto first introduced the program when she was in the Assembly in 1999. With the documented success of the program, Soto re-introduced it as a Senator in 2000. The Governor also included the program in his 2001-02 budget. The Senate Education Committee named it the Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program.

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Capitol Office: State Capitol, Room 4066 • Sacramento, CA 95814-4906 • (916) 445-6868 • Fax (916) 445-0128
District Offices: 822 N. Euclid Avenue, Suite A • Ontario, CA 91762 • (909) 984-7741 • Fax (909) 984-6695
215 N. “D” Street, Suite 106 • San Bernardino, CA 92410 • (909) 381-3832 • Fax (909) 381-0739
505 S. Garey Avenue, Second Floor • Pomona, CA 91766 • (909) 469-9935 • Fax (909) 469-9206
Homepage: www.sen.ca.gov/soto • **E-Mail:** senator.soto@sen.ca.gov

